**Diversion of Welfare Funds**

5204. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Central Government that a number of States have been diverting Welfare funds for other purposes ;

(b) if so, how many States have so far diverted these welfare funds ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision not to allot new funds to the States which have diverted these funds earlier ;

(d) whether any concrete report from all the State Governments has been obtained ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ;

(f) how many welfare funds are still unutilised by the States ; and

(g) whether in view of this any guidelines are being issued by the Central Government to the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (g) So far as schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Handicapped persons, and schemes under Social Defence are concerned, there is no information regarding misappropriation or diversion of funds at the State level. In so far as schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes are concerned, the State Governments/UT Administrations were addressed for the requisite information. In response, 12 States UTs viz. Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Delhi, Daman & Diu, Meghalaya, A&N Islands and Lakshadweep have so for responded denying any diversion or misappropriation of funds.

With a view to ensuring that funds meant for welfare schemes are utilised for the purpose for which they are intended, States/UTs have been advised to open separate Budget Head for outlay for the welfare of SCs and STs under Special Competent Plan and Tribal Sub-Plans Orders releasing Central grant to States also lay down some conditions. In respect of schemes under the Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment, this Ministry has requested the States/UTs to surrender the funds, which are lying unutilised with them for more than one year.

**Drive against child beggars**

5205. DR. BAPU KALDATE :

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an intensive drive was recently launched against the child beggars and the begging mafias in Delhi and other parts of the country ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A special drive by the Delhi Police has been launched for a month commencing from 1-4-1994 to round up child beggars in Delhi. All the 120 police stations are taking part in this drive. The child beggars rounded up in this drive are produced before the Juvenile Welfare Board which is a competent authority to decide their cases. Till 24-4-94, a total number of 625 child beggars were rounded up by police and produced before the Juvenile Welfare Board. Out of them 296 child beggars have already been discharged/restored to their parents/guardian and sent to Juvenile Homes and the cases of the rest of the Child Beggars are being processed by Probation Officers, for providing care, protection and other facilities in Observation Homes for Boys and Girls. Information from other parts of the country is being collected.

**Handicapped employees in PSUs**

5206. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question

2276 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th December, 1993 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not yet received the decision of the concerned Administrative Ministry for redressal of the grievances of handicapped employees in PSUs ;

(b) whether certain PSUs have been dragging the handicapped employees in court case without giving them the sympathits, as they might be deserving ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) what further steps would be taken to resolve such disputes even outside the courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (d) The redressal grievances of employees of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) including handicapped employees falls within the administrative ambit of the concerned PSU. If any complaint is received in the Ministry of Welfare the same forwarded to the concerned administrative Ministry/Deptt. for remedial action.

**Central scheme for assistance to voluntary Organisations**

5207. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any Central Scheme for providing assistance to voluntary Organisations engaged in serving persons with cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation for manpower development ; and

(b) if so, the retails thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Scheme, assistance is given to voluntary organisations for manpower development in the field of Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation to the extent of 100 per cent. Assistance is given only to those teachers training courses which are recognised by Rehabilitation Council of India. The applications are considered for grant on being recommended by the concerned State Governments/ UTs. In the year 1993-94, 10 voluntary organisations were assisted with Rs. 30 lakhs.

**District Rehabilitation Scheme**

5208. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government had launched the District Rehabilitation Scheme in early 1985 for providing a package of rehabilitation services to the rural disabled ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this Scheme so far, including the names of the States in which the scheme is under implementation and the number of Districts covered under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) Yes Sir,

(b) There are 11 District Rehabilitation Centres working in 10 States. The scheme envisages services to locomotor disabled speech & hearing impaired, visually impaired, mentally handicapped and multiple handicapped persons. The Services provided under the Scheme are placed as statement-I (*See* below). Apartfrom that there are 4 Regional Rehabilitation Training Centres (RRTCs) in Lucknow, Madras, Cuttack and Bombay to provide technical support to the District Rehabilitation Centres in the area of trained professional manpower, paramedical and field workers.

(c) The progress made so far under the scheme is placed as statement-II and statemest-III

**Statement-I**

*Services provided to the handicapped persons under the District Rehabilitation Centre Scheme.*

(a) Prevention and Early Detection ;